

## GLOSSARY FOR ARCHES NATIONAL PARK FLOWER GUIDE

**Achene** – a small dry, hard, 1-seeded, 1-loculed indehiscent fruit

**Annual** – a plant completing its life cycle in one year from seed germination, production of flowers and seeds and dying

**Anther** – the part of the stamen that is pollen-bearing

**Apical** – located at the tip

**Axil** – the upper side of the angle between a leaf and stem

**Axillary** – located in or around the axil

**Banner petal** – the upper petal of the corolla of Fabaceae (Pea family)

**Biennial** – a plant that lives for two growing seasons and normally does not produce flowers during the first year

**Bipinnatifid** – pinnately cleft twice

**Bisexual** – a flower having both carpels (female) and stamens (male); perfect

**Bract** – a reduced leaf below a flower cluster

**Bulb** – an underground leaf bud with thickened scales

**C2** – Taxa for which the information now in the possession of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service indicates that proposing to list them as endangered or threatened species is possibly appropriate, but for which substantial data on biological vulnerability and threat(s) are not currently known or on file to support the immediate preparation of rules.

**C3** – Taxa that are no longer being considered for listing as threatened or endangered species by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service

**Calyx** – the sepals of the flower (outer whorl of the flowering parts)

**Carpel** – a simple pistil or one of the modified leaves forming a compound pistil

**Catkin** – an inflorescence characterized by typically unisexual, bracteate flowers without petals hanging down in a cluster

**Cauline** – attached on the stem

**Centimeter** – 0.393700787 inches

**Cleft** – split nearly to the midpoint

**Colorado Plateau** – an elevated, mildly folded and faulted physiographic province in the Four Corners region of the southwestern United States. The province covers an area of approximately 130,000 square miles (337,000 km<sup>2</sup>) within western Colorado, southeastern Utah, northwestern New Mexico, and northern Arizona. This area is drained by the Colorado River and its tributaries, the Green River, San Juan River and Little Colorado River.

**Compound leaf** – a leaf with two to many leaflets, each of which may look like a complete leaf, but which lacks buds

**Corolla** – the petals of a flower, the set of flower parts interior to the sepals and surrounding the stamens

**Corm** – a short, bulblike, underground vertical stem with dry papery scale leaves

**Corymb** – a flat-topped or rounded flower cluster composed of many small flowers with the outer flowers blooming first and having longer stalks; each flower has a stalk of varying length

**Cotyledon** – the leaf or leaves of the embryo of a seed

**Cyathia** – plural of cyanthium; involucre of fused bracts forming a cup enclosing unisexual flowers, most 5 lobed and bearing 1 to 4 glands around the margin, each gland often with a white or colored petaloid appendage

**Cyathium** – the tiny, reduced flower of Euphorbiaceae (Euphorbia family); often a single pistil with a few male flowers each having one stamen.

**Cyme** – a flat-topped or rounded flower cluster composed of many small flowers with the central flowers opening first

**Decimeter** – 3.937008 inches

**Desert shrub community** – characterized by plants such as blackbrush, saltbush, sagebrush, or greasewood

**Dicot** – flowering plants which typically have two cotyledons, net venation, and flower parts in 4's, 5's or multiples thereof

**Dioecious** – producing male and female flowers on separate plants

**Discoid** – having disk flowers

**Disk** – in Asteraceae (Sunflower family), the central part of the head composed of tubular, perfect (functionally staminate) flowers of the head surrounding the base of the ovary; separate from the ray flowers

**Endemic** – restricted to a geographic region, topographic unit or a specified soil situation

**Entire** – a leaf that is undivided; the margin is continuous and is not toothed or lobed

**Feet** – 12 inches or 30.48 centimeters

**Follicle** – a dry fruit with a single carpel, which at maturity splits along the ventral (front or belly side) suture only

**Forb** – an herbaceous (little or no woody material) plant that is not a grass

**Fornices** – a set of small scales or appendages in the throat of the corolla, as in Boraginaceae (Borage family)

**Funnelform** – gradually widening upwards; shaped like a funnel

**Gymnosperm** – a vascular plant that bears cones

**Herb** – a plant without a persistent woody stem above the ground; the stems die back to the ground at the end of the growing season

**Hypanthium** - a cup-shaped structure on which the calyx, corolla, and often the stamens are inserted

**Inch** – 2.54 centimeters

**Incised** – deeply and sharply cut; intermediate between toothed and lobed

**Indehiscent** – not splitting open at maturity

**Inflorescence** – the arrangement of flowers on the axis; the flower cluster of a plant

**Involucres** – a set of bracts beneath an inflorescence, as in the heads of Asteraceae (Sunflower family)

**Keel (petals)** – the two lower partly united petals of the corolla of many flowers in Fabaceae (Pea family)

**Loculed** – a seed cavity (compartment) in an ovary or fruit

**Margin** – leaf edge

**Meter** – 3.280839895 feet

**Millimeter** - 0.039370079 inches

**Monocot** – flowering plants which have a single cotyledon, parallel venation, and flower parts in 3's or multiples thereof

**Monoecious** – having staminate (male) and pistillate (female) flowers on the same plant, but not perfect ones

**Node** – the place on the stem where the leaf is (or has been) attached

**Non-native** – not originally from that location; introduced

**Ovate** – with the outline of an egg in longitudinal section, with the larger end toward the base

**Ovule** – the structure in the ovary that becomes the seed after fertilization

**Palmately** – lobed or veined with the branches arising from a common point, like the fingers of a hand

**Panicle** – a compound inflorescence containing many small flowers with individual stalks

**Pappus** – modified sepals in Asteraceae (Sunflower family), consisting of hairs, scales, and/or bristles

**Peduncle** – the stalk of a flower or flower cluster

**Perennial** – a plant that lives more than two years

**Perfect** – a flower with both stamens and pistils

**Perianth** – all of the sepals and the petals collectively

**Petaloid** – resembling a petal, as in brightly-colored sepals

**Pinnate** – a compound leaf with leaflets arranged on both sides of a common axis

**Pinnatifid** – a leaf pinnately cleft into narrow lobes which do not reach the midrib

**Pistil** – the ovule-bearing structure of the flower, ordinarily differentiated into a stigma, style and ovary

**Pistillate** – a female flower with one or more pistils, but no stamens

**Polygamous** – bearing unisexual and bisexual flowers on the same plant

**Raceme** – an elongate inflorescence of flowers on which individual flowers each bloom on small stalks from a common, larger, central stalk

**Rays** – in Asteraceae (Sunflower family), the outer flowers of a head; separate from the disk flowers

**Rhizome** – an underground horizontal stem or rootstock with scales, leaves, and buds at the nodes

**Rib** – one of the main longitudinal veins of a leaf or other organ

**Riparian** – growing along stream banks

**Saline** - salty

**Salverform** – a corolla with a slender tube that abruptly expands into a flat limb

**Samara** – a dry, winged fruit (usually one-seeded) that does not split open at maturity

**Schizocarp** – a dry fruit that splits into two or more one-seeded closed segments at maturity

**Sedimentary rocks** - rocks formed by the deposition or accumulation of pieces of weathered rocks that later were buried and cemented, or glued, together.

**Seleniferous** – bearing selenium

**Sepal** – a segment of a calyx; a member of the outermost set of floral leaves; typically green, but sometimes brightly colored

**Sepaloid** – sepal-like, as in some petals

**Shrub** – a woody plant smaller than a tree that has several to many stems

**Siliqua** – an elongate many-seeded capsule of Brassicaceae (Mustard family) with two valves splitting from the bottom and leaving an internal partition between them

**Simple leaf** – a leaf with a single blade; not compound, but can be deeply cleft

**Stamen** – The male organ of a flower that bears pollen, consisting of an anther and usually a filament

**Staminate** – a male flower with one or more stamens, but no pistil

**Stigma** – the part of the pistil which is receptive to pollen

**Style** – the portion of the pistil between the ovary and the stigma

**Subshrub** – a very small shrub or low woody perennial, generally less than 15 centimeters (6 inches) high with a woody base only. Its bushy structure consists of non-woody stems.

**Substrates** – a surface on which a plant grows or is attached

**Terminal** – farthest from the point of attachment

**Tree** – a perennial woody plant that usually has a single main trunk or stem

**Type specimen** – the specimen on which the name of a plant is based

**Umbel** – a flat or rounded flower cluster in which the flower stalks are approximately of equal length and arise from a common point

**Unisexual** – male flower (staminate) or female flower (pistillate), but not both

**Utricle** – a small, bladder-like, one-seeded fruit that usually does not split open at maturity

**Wings (petals)** – lateral petals of the corolla of many flowers in Fabaceae (Pea family)